



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/083,186	02/26/2002	Shigefumi Odaohhara	JP920000465US1	5140

25299 7590 01/06/2005

IBM CORPORATION
PO BOX 12195
DEPT 9CCA, BLDG 002
RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27709

EXAMINER

PERVEEN, REHANA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2116

DATE MAILED: 01/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/083,186

Applicant(s)

ODAOHHARA, SHIGEFUMI

Examiner

Rehana Perveen

Art Unit

2116

Peri d f r Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears n the c ver sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 November 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 7-9, 17 and 18 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 5, 6 and 10-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3 and 4 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/1/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 recites the limitation "said predetermined value" in lines 7-8. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Claims 2-6 are, directly or indirectly, dependent on claim 1. Therefore, claims 2-6 are rejected for carrying the same deficiency as claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 10-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujimoto et al, Japanese Patent No. JP409312935A, in view of Okamoto, Japanese Patent No. JP404200238A.

As to claims 1 and 10, Fujimoto et al teach a power supply apparatus connected to a commercial power supply for supplying power to a main unit (load 10), a battery for supplying power to the main unit (battery 4), a controller (control means 22), and the controller executes an operation when power consumption in the main unit exceeds a predetermined value (abstract).

However, Fujimoto et al do not expressly teach the operation being a power consumption control operation.

Okamoto teaches a power consumption control equipment for monitoring power consumption, and executing a power consumption control operation when the power consumption is detected to be higher than a preset first value (or threshold) (abstract).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Fujimoto et al and Okamoto because Okamoto's power consumption control, when incorporated into Fujimoto et al's system, would have enabled increased efficiency in overall system power management by allowing reduction in power consumption of the overall system.

As to claim 2, Fujimoto teaches the predetermined value is equivalent to a maximum output power of the power supply apparatus (abstract).

As to claim 5, Fujimoto et al teach the controller recognizes an output current value or an output voltage value from the power supply apparatus and has the operation executed (abstract). Okamoto teaches the power consumption control operation being executed based on a value detection, inherently an output current value or an output voltage value (abstract).

As to claim 6, Fujimoto et al teach a variation controlling unit for controlling variation of the voltage supplied to a predetermined part of the main unit (abstract).

As to claim 11, Okamoto teaches a current measurement circuit for measuring an output current from the power supply apparatus, and the controller makes the system unit stop the power consumption reduction operation and restore the previous operation on detecting the output current being lower than a predetermined current threshold (inherent in temporary stop of or temporarily suppressing power consumption, abstract).

Claims 12-16 are directed to the method of system claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, and 11. Fujimoto et al and Okamoto, in combination, teach the system as set forth in claims 1,

2, 5, 6, 10, and 11. Therefore, Fujimoto et al and Okamoto, in combination, also teach the method as set forth in claims 12-16.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 7-9, 17, and 18 are allowed over the prior art of record.

Claims 3 and 4 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, and when the independent claim 1 rejection under 35 USC 112 is overcome.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rehana Perveen whose telephone number is 571-272-3676. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynne H Browne can be reached on 571-272-3670. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2116

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Rehana Perveen
Primary Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100